Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 09903 131731Z ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, OCON, PFOR, SOPN, BEXP, GW

SUBJECT: ABORTED NAUMANN FOUNDATION SYMPOSIUM

REF: BONN 09823

- 1. THE TELEGRAM REFERRED TO REPORTS THE IMMEDIATE CAUSES FOR THE NAUMANN FOUNDATION'S CANCELLATION OF ITS PLANNED SYMPOSIUM, A MATTER OF SURPRISE AND CHAGRIN TO THE MISSION, GIVEN THE AMOUNT OF EFFORT UNDERTAKEN IN WASHINGTON AND HERE.
- 2. THE ULTIMATE CAUSE WOULD APPEAR TO ARISE OUT OF THE DISARRAY THE FDP FINDS ITSELF IN AT THE PRESENT MOMENT. THE PAST WEEK SAW ACUTE DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN FDP LEADERS AND RANK AND FILE, AND BETWEEN IT AND ITS COALITION PARTNER, MAINLY IN THE ECONOMIC SECTOR AND SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE SUBJECT THE SYMPOSIUM WAS TO COVER. SINCE THE FDP EARNESTLY WANTS ITS CO-SPONSORED SYMPOSIUM TO BE IMPRESSIVE AND SHOW THE PARTY IN A FAVORABLE LIGHT TO INFLUENTIAL AMERICANS, ITS PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS WOULD HARDLY BE CONDUCIVE TO ACHIEVE THIS, PARTICULARLY WITH THE PROSPECT OF SENIOR PARTY MEMBERS WRANGLING AMONG THEMSELVES IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FRONT OF IMPORTANT AMERICAN GUESTS.

3. IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS TO THE EMBASSY OFFICERS INVOLVED IN DEALING WITH THE NAUMANN FOUNDATION OFFICIALS THAT THE UNGLUING OF THE SYMPOSIUM PLANS WAS VERY EMBARRASSING TO THEM, AND THAT THEIR EARNESTNESS TO ENSURE THAT THE NEXT ATTEMPT WILL BE A ROUSING SUCCESS

IS GREAT. ALTHOUGH THIS FRACASSO IS MORE THAN ANNOYING TO US, WE AGREE THE NAUMANN FOUNDATION SHOULD BE GIVEN ANOTHER CHANCE, PERHAPS NEXT FALL. STOESSEL

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